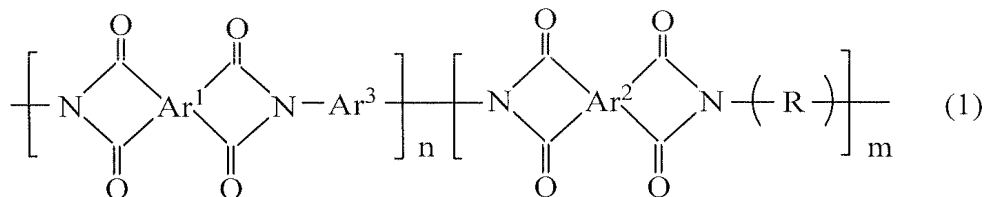


Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin having a basic skeleton represented by the following general formula (1):

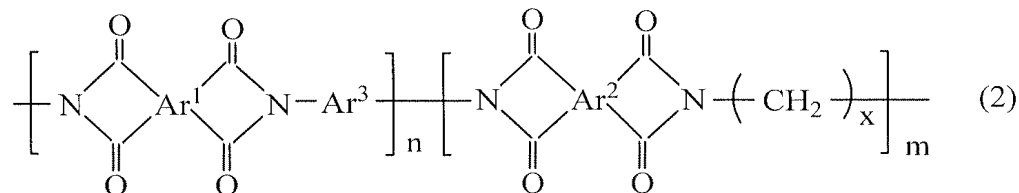
[Formula 1]



(~~in the formula (1),~~ wherein each of Ar¹ and Ar² is an aromatic ring having a carbon number of 6-20, which forms an imide ring of 5 or 6 atoms with an imide group adjoining thereto. ~~In the aromatic ring,~~ provided that a part of carbon atoms in the aromatic ring may be substituted with S, N, O, SO₂ or CO, or a part of hydrogen atoms in the aromatic ring may be substituted with an aliphatic group, a halogen atom or a perfluoro aliphatic group; ~~and~~ Ar¹ and Ar² ~~may be~~ are same or different; R is at least one of linear alkylene group and branched alkylene group having a carbon number of 1-20; Ar³ is an aromatic ring having a carbon number of 6-20 in which at least a part of hydrogen atoms is substituted with at least one of sulfoalkoxy group, carboalkoxy group and phosphoalkoxy group having a carbon number of 1-20, provided that ~~and~~ a part of carbon atoms in these groups may be substituted with S, N, O, SO₂ or CO, or a part of hydrogen atoms may be substituted with an aliphatic group, a halogen atom or a perfluoro aliphatic group; ~~and~~ n and m show a polymerization degree and are an integer of not less than 2.)

2. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 1, wherein the basic skeleton is represented by the following general formula (2):

[Formula 2]

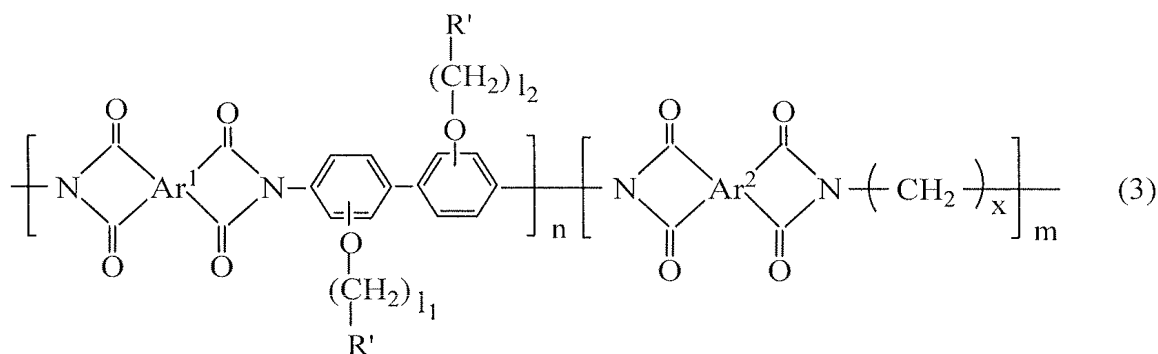


(~~in the formula (2),~~ wherein each of Ar¹ and Ar² is an aromatic ring having a carbon number of 6-20, which forms an imide ring of 5 or 6 atoms with an imide group adjoining thereto. ~~In the aromatic ring,~~ provided that a part of carbon atoms in the aromatic ring may be substituted with S, N, O, SO₂ or CO, or a part of hydrogen atoms in the aromatic ring may be substituted with an aliphatic group, a halogen atom or a perfluoro aliphatic

group; and Ar^1 and Ar^2 ~~may be~~ are same or different; x shows the carbon number of an alkylene group and is an integer of 1-20; Ar^3 is an aromatic ring having a carbon number of 6-20 in which at least a part of hydrogen atoms is substituted with at least one of sulfoalkoxy group, carboalkoxy group and phosphoalkoxy group having a carbon number of 1-20 and, provided that a part of carbon atoms in these groups may be substituted with S, N, O, SO_2 or CO, or a part of hydrogen atoms may be substituted with an aliphatic group, a halogen atom or a perfluoro aliphatic group; and n and m show a polymerization degree and are an integer of not less than 2.)

3. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 2, wherein the basic skeleton is represented by the following general formula (3):

[Formula 3]



(~~in the formula (3)~~, wherein each of Ar^1 and Ar^2 is an aromatic ring having a carbon number of 6-20, which forms an imide ring of 5 or 6 atoms with an imide group adjoining thereto. ~~In the aromatic ring~~, provided that a part of carbon atoms in the aromatic ring may be substituted with S, N, O, SO_2 or CO, or a part of hydrogen atoms in the aromatic ring may be substituted with an aliphatic group, a halogen atom or a perfluoro aliphatic group; and Ar^1 and Ar^2 ~~may be~~ are same or different; x shows the carbon number of an alkylene group and is an integer of 1-20. ~~Also~~; R' is at least one of a sulfonic acid group, a carboxylic acid group and phosphinic acid group, and each of l_1 and l_2 is a carbon number of at least one of a sulfoalkoxy group, a carboalkoxy group and a phosphoalkoxy group and is an integer of 1-20; and l_1 and l_2 ~~may be~~ are the same or different; and n and m show a polymerization degree and are an integer of not less than 2.

4. (Original) A polyimide resin according to claim 3, wherein the carbon number of at least one of a sulfoalkoxy group, a carboalkoxy group and a phosphoalkoxy group shown by l_1 and l_2 in the general formula (3) is 3 or 4.

5. (Previously presented) A polyimide resin according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein n/m in the general formulae (1)-(3) is not more than 95/5 but not less than 30/70.

6. (Previously presented) A polyimide resin according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein a part of at least one of the linear alkylene group and the branched alkylene group shown by R in the general formulae (1)-(3) includes a crosslinking structure.

7. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.

8-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) A polyimide resin according to claim 4, wherein n/m in the general formulae (1)-(3) is not more than 95/5 but not less than 30/70.

23. (Previously presented) A polyimide resin according to claim 4, wherein a part of at least one of the linear alkylene group and the branched alkylene group shown by R in the general formulae (1)-(3) includes a crosslinking structure.

24. (Previously presented) A polyimide resin according to claim 5, wherein a part of at least one of the linear alkylene group and the branched alkylene group shown by R in the general formulae (1)-(3) includes a crosslinking structure.

25. (Previously presented) A polyimide resin according to claim 22, wherein a part of at least one of the linear alkylene group and the branched alkylene group shown by R in the general formulae (1)-(3) includes a crosslinking structure.

26. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 4, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.

27. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 5, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.

28. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 6, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.

29. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 22, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.

30. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 23, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.

31. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 24, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.

32. (Currently amended) A polyimide resin according to claim 25, wherein ~~an~~ a weight average molecular weight is not less than 5000.